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District 13 - Huron & Lorain
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Tina Maharath
State Senator
District 3 - Franklin County

MAY 2022

To the Honorable Board Members of the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs

No major change in workload and activities has been experienced this month. Our emphasis has been placed on outreach and education with a strong social media campaign for Mental Health Month underway and information regarding the decreased supply of infant formula and the important guidelines for parents regarding the nutrition for their children.

Midwest Latino Mental Health Conference (Minneapolis): Director Cavanaugh participated in this regional conference to share about the work of our Commission in the space of mental health and present the work with the Navigators' Project. Additionally, Director Cavanaugh had the opportunity to participate in training sessions focused on Latino Youth Mental Health, Community Mental Health Workers Engagement, Mental Health Services for Latino Youth, Addressing bullying among Hispanic and Latino Children in School Settings and Responding to the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Mental Health.

Latino Mental Health Grant: May brings to a close the first quarter of implementation for the Mental Health Navigators program. All sites are making excellent progress creating their resource mapping and reaching out to local mental health boards. They continue to receive technical training from El Centro de Servicios Sociales and through one to one consultations with our support team and advisor Dr. Marilyn Sampilo. Additionally, we held a debrief with Jake Reichelt, OhioMHAS on the status of the grant implementation.

Latino Mental Health Network Group: Met on Monday, May 16th and we were joined by two special guests. Dr. Isa Velez-Echevarria, a clinical psychologist and a Certified Child and Adolescent Trauma Professional who is currently working at the University of



Wisconsin Center for Health Enhancement Systems Studies (CHESS) as a Program Manager for the state of Ohio for the Great Lakes Addiction, Prevention, and Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Networks. She spoke about her experience working with issues that directly affect minority mental health and the quest to increasing accessibility to culturally responsive trauma-informed mental health services for children and families. She also spoke more specifically about her role as Program Manager for the state of Ohio and the resources that are available to mental health providers and professionals via the Great Lakes Addiction, Prevention, and Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network. The second guest was Jimmy Lump, Senior Vice President at Paul Werth Associates who gave a presentation regarding the statewide media campaign 'Beat the Stigma', which has been organized by the Ohio Opioid Education Alliance. He was able to field questions about how mental health providers around the state can contribute to the spread of the Opioid Education Alliance's important message. The meeting included updates from individual members of the Mental Health Network then concluded with an update regarding the recently launched resource distribution platform for the network. Throughout the meeting, 19 members of the Mental Health Network attended with many actively participating through chat messages and questions to the presenters.

Promotoras de Salud Project: Due to the short time span to develop the proposal and obtain all pertinent information, we will not be applying for the Community Health Workers Workforce Development Grant Initiative at this time. However, we plan to continue to work on the concept document to participate in the next round of funding. Meanwhile, we will be working on a Latino Community Report on the topic of Promotoras to build the background information necessary for future funding proposals. It is expected that this report will be ready by the end of August.

Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers: Met with Emilio Bloch from Ohio Dept. of Health to plan the conversation for next month with representatives from state government agencies and leaders serving the needs of the Migrant and Seasonal population. The meeting will be held in June to provide an overview of support services and resources available through the Department of Health, Dept. of Job and Family Services, Dept. of Agriculture and the Latino Affairs Commission.

Trauma Informed Care Conference: Director Cavanaugh has been participating in the planning for this conference and attended the event on May 18th. She also facilitated as moderator the session focusing on the needs of New Americans and Refugees. The Summit focused on moving systems beyond trauma informed to trauma competent care with a specific focus on trauma informed care in a pandemic.

Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards Gala: Planning continues underway and a partnership has been reached with OSU Medical Center and OSU Office of Diversity and Inclusion as our potential hosts for the event which is slated for Saturday October 15th, 2022 in Columbus.

On the administrative front, we have completed preparing assets retirements and have prepared encumbrances for end of fiscal year 2022. The financial report is attached for



information.

The Firewall update and enablement was completed in all office computers successfully on Friday, May 13th and the commission is now in compliance.

In regards to personnel, Americorps Vista Adaku Onwuka submitted her resignation due to personal and health reasons. The vacant position will be advertised towards the end of June and July with the hope to fill the position this summer. We also held a meeting with Dr. Elena Foulis to discuss the transition plan for the OSU Spanish In Ohio Course which provides many of the student volunteers who are assigned to our team throughout the year. The new lead for the program will be Stephanie Aubry and we look forward to welcoming the students this coming Fall semester. Additionally, this is the time of the year when staff begin scheduling some of their vacation time so there will be a slower pace in activity for certain projects.

Meetings Attended:

May 04-May 06—Latino Mental Health Conference, Minneapolis
May 09—Tammy Bethea, City of Columbus
May 09—Jake Reichelt, OhioMHAS, Jessica Sutton, Latino Mental Health Navigators Grant
May 09—NALEO Board Meeting (virtual)
May 10—Dr. Elena Foulis, Yahaira Carvallo, Stephanie Aubry, OSU Spanish In Ohio Course
May 13—Firewall enablement
May 13—Trauma Informed Care Conference Advisory Committee
May 13—Hispanic Business Awards Event Planning Committee
May 16—Dr. Marilyn Sampilo Debrief, Cleveland Clinic
May 16—Ohio Access to Justice Foundation, DEI Committee
May 16—Dr. Sampilo, Dr. Gutierrez, Dr. Kelly, Promotoras de Salud Project
May 16—Latino Mental Health Network Meeting
May 16—Hispanic Business Awards Event Planning Committee
May 17—Ohio Dept. of Health, Interagency Social And Community Committee
May 17—Veronica Dahlberg, HOLA
May 17—Trauma Informed Care Conference Planning Committee
May 17—Debrief with Chair Manuel Lopez
May 18—Trauma Informed Care Conference, OhioMHAS
May 18—Hispanic Chambers of Commerce Meeting
May 18—Mr. Ron Todd, Governor's Office
May 19—Giovanna Alvarez, Su Casa and Hamilton County Mental Health Board
May 19—Cesar Gonzalez
May 20—Mr. Ron Todd, Governor's Office and ethnic leaders meetings
May 20—FALCON Networking Meeting
May 20—Dr. Gutierrez, Dr. Sampilo, Dr. Kelly, Promotoras de Salud
May 23—Veronica Dahlberg, Victor Leandry, Jessica Sutton, HOLA
May 23—Emilio Bloch, Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers
May 24—Melissa Miller, Americorps Vista Portfolio Manager Debrief



May 24—Tracy Najera, Children’s Defense Fund
May 26—May 27—Lilly out of office
May 30—Holiday
May 31—Preventive Health & Health Advisory Block Grant Spring Meeting

Public Policy Center (PPC) Report

Carly McCain, Public Policy Officer

Summary of Successes:

-**Latino Community Report:** Progress for research outline on the first LCR of 2022, the plan for which is to explore the current state of unaccompanied minors in Ohio. For context, OCHLA published an [LCR on this topic in 2016](#), but the situation has evolved all around the country and in Ohio since then.

Legislation Tracked: -Legislation Tracked:

[House Bill 687](#), the capital appropriations budget bill, was passed into law by the legislature and will:

Make capital appropriations totaling \$3.51 billion for the FY 2023-FY 2024 biennium, authorize about \$2.28 billion in new debt, and will modify several capital reappropriations.

Representative Scott Oelslager of Stark County, who serves as the Chair of the Ohio House Finance Committee, was the Sponsor of this bill.

[Senate Bill 215](#), which regards concealed handgun licensee duties, has been passed into law and will:

Allow permit less concealed carry of handguns in the state of Ohio.

SB 215 was introduced by Sponsor Senator Terry Johnson of Scioto County. It was considered by the Ohio Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee and the Ohio House Government Oversight Committee. The bill was passed by both chambers of the state legislature and was signed into law by the Governor. **This law goes into effect on June 12, 2022.**

[House Bill 151](#), which seeks to replace the Ohio Teacher Residency program with local mentorship requirements and enact the “Save Women’s Sports Act”, if passed into law would:

To amend sections 3314.03, 3319.26, and 3326.11 and to enact sections 3313.5318, 3319.225, and 3345.561 of the Revised Code and to amend the version of section 3319.223 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on April 12, 2023, to continue the changes on and after that date, to reduce the duration of the Alternative Resident Educator License from four to two years, to revise the Ohio Teacher Residency Program as it exists beginning on April 12, 2023, to require one day of professional



development leave each school year for classroom teachers to observe veteran teachers, and to enact the Save Women's Sports Act to require schools, state institutions of higher education, and private colleges to designate separate single-sex teams and sports for each sex.

HB 151 was introduced by Representative Don Jones of Harrison County. It was considered and passed by the Ohio House Primary and Secondary Education Committee and was passed by the Ohio House of Representatives. The bill now awaits assignment to a Senate Committee for further consideration.

[House Bill 99](#), which regards persons authorized to go armed within a school safety zone, was passed into law by the legislature and will:

Allow school employees to bring guns to school if they so choose.

Representative Thomas Hall of Butler County was the Sponsor of this bill. It was considered and passed by the Ohio House Criminal Justice Committee and the Senate Veterans and Public Safety Committee.

[House Bill 616](#), which regards “promotion and teaching of divisive, inherently racist concepts”, if passed into law, would:

- Prohibit public schools and nonpublic schools that enroll students who are participating in state scholarship programs from teaching or providing training that promotes or endorses divisive or inherently racist concepts;
- Specify that “divisive or inherently racist concepts” include (1) critical race theory, (2) intersectional theory, (3) the “1619 Project,” (4) diversity, equity, and inclusion learning outcomes, (5) inherited racial guilt, and (6) any other concept that the State Board of Education defines as divisive or inherently racist;
- Prohibit school district boards of education from selecting any textbook, instructional material, or academic curriculum that promotes divisive or inherently racist concepts;
- Prohibit the State Board from adopting any standards, model curricula, professional development resources, classroom resources, or assessments promoting divisive or inherent racist concepts;
- Prohibit public schools, nonpublic schools that enroll students who are participating in state scholarship programs, and any employee or other third party representing a school district or school from providing instruction or materials on sexual orientation or gender identity to (1) students in grades K-3 or (2) students in grades 4-12 that is not developmentally or age-appropriate; and
- Require the State Board to establish a procedure by which individuals may file complaints against a teacher, school, administrator, or school district superintendent alleging a violation of the bill's prohibitions and to adopt rules to govern the implementation of and monitor compliance with the bill's provisions.
- Require the Department of Education to do the following:
 - o Issue an adjudication order against a teacher, school administrator, or school district superintendent who is found to have violated the bill's prohibitions; and
 - o Withhold funding from a school district or school that is found to have violated the bill's



prohibitions. Representative Mike Loychik of Trumbull County and Representative Jean Schmidt of Clermont County are Joint Sponsors of HB 616. The bill is currently being considered by the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee.

[House Bill 327](#), if passed into law, would:

Prohibit teaching, advocating, or promoting divisive concepts.

Representative Diane Grendell of Geauga County and Representative Sarah Fowler Arthur of Ashtabula County are Joint Sponsors of HB 327. It is currently under consideration by the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee.

[House Bill 72](#), if passed into law, would:

Designate September 15 to October 15 of each year as Hispanic Heritage Month in the State of Ohio.

Representative Jessica Miranda of Hamilton County and Representative Al Cutrona of Mahoning County are Joint Sponsors of HB 72. Additionally, they both serve as OCHLA's Legislative Board Members from the Ohio House of Representatives. HB 72 is currently being considered by the Ohio House State and Local Government Committee.

[House Bill 88](#), if passed into law, would:

Require license for commercial roofing contractors.

Representative Thomas Patton of Cuyahoga County is the Sponsor of HB 88. HB 88 has been passed by the Ohio House as a whole. It now moves on to Ohio Senate committee consideration and has been assigned to that chamber's Government Oversight and Reform Committee. It has not received any hearings in Senate Committee.

[Senate Bill 64](#), if passed into law, would:

Regulate and register roofing contractors.

Senator George Lang of Butler County and Senator Jay Hottinger of Coshocton, Holmes (part), Licking, Perry, and Tuscarawas Counties are Joint Sponsors of SB 64. The bill is being considered by the Ohio Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee.

Senator Vernon Sykes of Summit County and Senator Kirk Schuring of Stark County are Joint Sponsors of SB 105.

[House Bill 290](#), aka the "backpack bill", if passed into law, would:

Make every school-aged child in Ohio eligible for a voucher to pay for private education.

It's called the backpack scholarship program and would direct the state treasurer to create "education savings accounts" for any student who wanted one starting in the summer of 2023. The accounts



would be filled with either \$5,500 (K-8 grade) or \$7,500 (9-12 grade) in state dollars annually and could be used to pay for things like private school tuition, homeschool supplies, after-school care, advanced placement testing fees, or educational therapies.

Representative Riordan McClain of Wyandot County and Representative Marilyn John of Richland County are Joint Sponsors of HB 290. It is currently under consideration by the Ohio House Finance Committee.

Voter Education: Produced and posted various informational graphics and links about the May 3 Primary Election.

-New American Advisory Council Forum:

The New American Advisory Council (NAAC) was established in 2017 by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to build a more welcoming and inclusive community. Chaired by US Together Co-Founder and Co-Director Nadia Kasvin, the NAAC is a cross-sector collaboration comprising immigrant and refugee service providers, state and local governments, policy experts, immigrant and refugee leaders, and business and community partners. The NAAC works to identify challenges and opportunities facing the New American community, to build a platform of inclusivity, and to offer solutions related to integration efforts.

Every year, the NAAC plans a Forum to bring experts together to engage in discussions surrounding the most pressing barriers to inclusivity in our community. These conversations are then turned into concrete recommendations to the Franklin County Board of Commissioners.

This year, OCHLA Public Policy Center intern Joseangel Fernandez represented OCHLA at the virtual event on Wednesday, May 11.

Meetings Attended:

Public Policy Officer was out on vacation for much of May.
5/24: English Learner Cost Study meeting

Latino Community Network (LCN) Report

Mary Grace Sanchez, Community Liaison

During the month of April the Community Liaison continued to attend a variety of different community Latino Networking meetings and stay engaged with the community via e-newsletters.

The numbers of constituent inquiries has continued to increase in volume since the new year, especially calls in Spanish. The LCN has continued the process of updating the OLANET so that it can be completed before the end of June 2022. The LCN has also continued to work alongside the rest of the team to build a robust calendar of social media content, since our Social Media Coordinators departure in May.



During the month of May the LCN continued to work with the DHO Committee in prepared quotes and draft budgets for the 2022 DHO. Also, in the month of May the LCN volunteered and attended the La Mega Hispanic Business Awards, as well as, participated and organized the Beat the Stigma Campaign Focus Group. Nevertheless, the Community Liaison has continued to learn about the Commission's programs and building relationships with the community.

Connecting the Community: Information and Resources

Latino Networking Meetings: A list of meetings that took place: Apoyo Latino Meeting, Canton/Akron Latino Networking Meeting, and the Youngstown Latino Networking Meeting. Mary Grace continues to update the calendar for all 2022 Latino Networking Meetings and saved it on the One Drive to keep track of who will be attending every meeting throughout the year.

Job Opportunities: We have continued to work on the Job Opportunities page.

Constituent Services: There were 15 constituent inquiries received in May.

Summary Connecting the Community: Information and Resources

	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022
Constituent Inquiries:	15	12	21	15	15							
Translations	1	0	0	0	1							
Job Opportunities posted	31	30	18	20	20							

Meetings Attended:

May 9—Andrea and Mary Touchbase
 May 9—Beat the Stigma Campaign Focus Group
 May 10—OSU Hispanic/Latinx Employee Group OLE
 May 13—Firewall Update/Meeting
 May 18 —Hispanic Chambers of Commerce bimonthly debrief
 May 18—Volunteer Meeting - La Mega Hispanic Business Awards
 May 18—Canton & Akron Latino Networking Meeting
 May 23— DHO Meeting with Lilly & Commissioner Santiago
 May 24—Apoyo Latino Meeting
 May 25—Distinguished Hispanic Ohioan Awards Gala (DHO) Follow-Up Conversation
 May 26—Youngstown Latino Networking Meeting

Social Media Outreach and Engagement:

[Adaku Onwuka, Social Media Coordinator](#)

Website Updates: There were no further updates made on the website this month. During the



month of May we focused on Mental Health Month and provided featured highlight information through social media to increase education efforts.

Social Media Engagement—Social Media and Website Statistics Report

Outlet	Data Measured	January	February	March	April	May	June
Facebook	Reach	1,400	6589	4,196	2,570 *	2,500	
	Followers	3,400	3,400	3,400	3,492	3,400	
	Impressions	95	204	315	904	642	
Twitter	Followers	1101	1101	1,108	1,116	1,118	
	Profile Visits	363	628	355	859	242	
	Mentions (from other orgs)	4	4	8	10	10	
Instagram	Followers	904	904	916	920	918	
	Impressions			2,800	4,098	n/a	
LinkedIn	Followers	218	218	265	229	234	
OCHLA Website	Total Views	5,029	6,367	3,979	Pending		
	# of visitors	726	767	934	Pending		
Job Postings	Submitted	31	30	18	20	20	

*Post reach instead of Page Likes to be tracked starting in April.

Website statistics are pending due to website technical issues with reporting page.

Respectfully submitted,



Financial Report as of May 31, 2022

LATINO AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Fund	Account	ALI	Budget Period	Budget	Expense	Encumbrance	Available Budget*	Percent Available	Remarks
GRF	500	148321	2022Q1	72,420.36	72,420.36	0	0	0	
GRF	500	148321	2022Q2	83,524.11	83,524.11	0	0	0	
GRF	500	148321	2022Q3	74,600.00	71,214.05	0	3,385.95	4.54	
GRF	500	148321	2022Q4	91,390.00	59,062.38	0	32,327.62	35.37	On schedule to meet with Payroll obligations
GRF	510	148321	2022	7,200.00	5,866.28	0	1,333.72	18.52	Unused funds available for potential contractors
GRF	520	148321	2022	132,802.53	81,493.04	16,097.00	35,212.49	26.51	Unused funds for the fiscal year will be close to \$30,000
GRF	530	148321	2022	6,500.00	6,500.00	0	0	0	
6010	520	148602	2022	24,558.00	0	0	24,558.00	100	The 6010 fund appropriation was not used in FY 2022

LATINO MENTAL HEALTH NAVIGATORS GRANT (6010 - 148605)

Fund	Account	ALI	Budget Period	Budget	Expense	Encumbrance	Available Budget*	Percent Available	Remarks
6010	510	148602	2022	68,601.00	10,835.00	8,165.00	49,601.00	72.3	Pending invoices for May and June
6010	550	148602	2022	370,213.00	73,470.06	152,363.94	144,379.00	39	Pending invoices for May and June

Prepared 6/8/2022

